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1616 EYE STREET, N. W.

TELEPHONE STerling 8755

PRESIDENT

Vice Admiral Harry G. Hamlet, USCG, 6410 Beechwood Drive, Chevy Chase 15, Md., OL. 5966

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Major General Louis McCarty Little, USMC, 3010 "O" St., N. W., MI. 7239

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Major General Walter C. Baker, USA, Kennedy Warren Apts., CO. 8869

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Lieut. Comdr. Charles W. Cairnes, USCG, Ontario Apts., CO. 0800

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND LEGAL COUNSEL

Captain Franz O. Willenbucher, USN, 7103 Overhill Road, Bethesda, Md., WI. 5730

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Lieut. (jg) D. D. Davis, USNR, 1616 Eye St., N. W., ST. 8755

EDITOR .....Lt. Comdr. George M. Bailey, USCG

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ON OUR OWN

An anecdote from the last war, told by General Collins, concerns a soldier of the 25th Division who, during a temporary suspension of fighting on Guadalcanal, brought in a Jap prisoner to his regimental command post. Few Japanese prisoners were taken so this one created quite a flutter. His captor was a man who had achieved some fame in his outfit and for that had gained the title "Eight Rock." Perhaps a reason for his being so known was because his strange antics often placed him behind the well-known eight ball. Among other things, he claimed to have a "Voice" which counseled him when in trouble. Following is "Eight Rock's" story of his adventure on the day in question:

He started out on some private and very dangerous scouting. Slipping around a flank position taking him well behind our lines, he followed an old native trail through the jungle. Approaching a fork in the trail, the "Voice" said, "Eight Rock, take the right fork," and he took the right fork. At the next junction, the "Voice" said, "Eight Rock, take the left fork," and so on until the "Voice" finally led him to a clearing where three Japs were working.

The Japs being equally surprised, reached for their rifles, causing "Eight Rock" to freeze in his tracks. He quickly asked, "Voice—what do I do now?" The "Voice" replied, "Eight Rock—from here on in you're on your own!"

He shot and killed two of the Japs before they could move, whereupon the third being so awed by his display of marksmanship, did the rare thing and surrendered.

The tragic part of that story of the man with the amazing "Voice" is that all too often, when he needed comfort and guidance the most, his "Voice" led him into troublesome situations or, worse still, left him on his own.

True, "Eight Rock's" individual efforts in this instance were successful but experience has proved that, more than often, such is the exception rather than the rule.

Plautus once said, "Every man, however wise, needs the advice of some sagacious friend in the affairs of life." The purpose of our Association is to lend organized assistance in the solution of those problems bearing upon the interests of retired officers when other efforts seem futile.

SERVICE BENEFITS A VITAL MORALE FACTOR

An article published in a recent issue of the Army Information Digest discussed the subject of travel allowances in the post-Revolutionary era. It pointed out that prior to 1812 allowances for traveling expenses were pitifully inadequate and, as a result, officers, particularly those with large families resigned in preference to facing the ordeal and great personal cost of changing station. In those days there were no extra emoluments for officers with dependents; married or unmarried, all of the same grade drew the same allowances.

After paying for their transportation, the government regarded $1. to $1.25 ample reimbursement for additional expenses, depending upon whether the officer concerned already drew money for forage.

Household effects reached destination after long delay and, not infrequently badly damaged. Back in 1798 freight rates from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh were about 7¢ per pound. A colonel was entitled to 750 pounds, while a second lieutenant was limited to 250. Thus, if the junior officer wanted to ship 750 pounds, he would have to spend much more than the equivalent of his monthly pay. Consequently, officers had to content themselves with the barest of necessities.

It is true that today personnel of the Services are provided with commissary and exchange stores, medical and dental treatment, and more liberal allowances to meet the unusual, yet demanding requirements of service life.

But now we hear and read much about drastic curtailment or possible elimination of those few benefits which have, over the years, been regarded as part of military life itself.

Widespread concern presently exists from a recommendation of the Bureau of the Budget for the discontinuation of medical care for service families. Secretary of Defense Johnson, recognizing the adverse effect such a move would have upon Service morale, addressed Budget Director Pace recommending against adoption of the proposal, pointing out that previous studies, both within and without the Department of Defense, had reached the conclusion that such care be continued.

While not in agreement with the elimination of medical care for service families, Secretary Johnson conceded the need for a thorough study of the question, in order to establish a uniform Department of Defense policy, and he has appointed a special committee for that purpose.

Our President has written Secretary Johnson stating that the availability of medical and hospital facilities to dependents of Service personnel have been in the past, and are now, part of the inducement to enter military service on a career basis, and that the availability of them to dependents of retired personnel has been and will continue to be looked upon as part of the guarantee assured them for long and faithful service to their country. He stated further it was not the understanding of the Association that the Hook Commission in recommending pay increases, or the Congress in enacting the Career Compensation Act of 1949, did so with a view to any withdrawal or reduction in hospital or medical services to dependents. Conversely, belief was expressed that those pay increases were arrived at with full appreciation of the existence of those services and other benefits available to those who serve in uniform and their dependents.

In conclusion, our President observed that the desire should rather be to extend and consolidate those services, to the end that they could be made more fully available to the dependents of those who serve their country, and he strongly urged a course similar to that Secretary Johnson has taken.

This Association will continue its efforts toward preserving hospital, medical and other benefits which constitute such a vital morale factor to military personnel of the active and retired lists and their dependents.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION BIENNIAL CONVENTION HELD IN WASHINGTON 17, FEBRUARY 1950

Under the capable leadership of our President, Vice Admiral Harry G. Hamlet, USCG, Retired, ably assisted by the variously appointed Committees and the entire Staff, the Association's biennial convention held on Friday, 17 February 1950, at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, has been termed an outstanding success.

Following a carefully planned agenda, the meeting was conducted throughout with traditional military smartness, precision and accomplishment.

It was acclaimed by an unusually large attendance as the most progressive and constructive convention ever held by this Association.

The convention was convened and called to order by our President, Admiral Hamlet, at 9 a.m.

Rear Admiral Thornton C. Miller, (ChC), USN, Chaplain Corps Inspector of the Navy, honored the meeting by pronouncing the invocation.

Report of the Credential Committee was offered and accepted. Thereupon the convention was formally opened.

Then offered and accepted were the reports of the Committee on Program, the Committee on Rules and Order of Business, and the Proxy Committee for the convention.

Minutes of the Directors' meetings since 14 February 1948, having been reported in substance through the Bulletin, were considered as read, and approved.

Next was submission of the Report of the President of the Association for the year 1949, which was approved and is published in full at the end of this resume. Report of the Association's President for the year 1948, completing the two year period since the date of the last convention, having been published in the 2nd Quarter—1949 Bulletin, was considered read and also approved.

At this point in the proceedings, Lieutenant Colonel Thomas J. Hayes, C.E., U.S. Army, representing the Hon. John Russell Young, President of the Board of Commissioners for the District of Columbia, entered, was introduced, and extended a most heartwarming official greeting and welcome upon behalf of the City of Washington.

Captain F. O. Willenbucher, USN, Retired, the Association's Executive Vice President and Legal Counsel, then read his reports covering the activities of those offices since the last convention, the highlights of which are reported immediately after the report of the Association's President, following this resume.

Then came the Report of the Resolutions Committee in connection with those resolutions which were offered for consideration by the convention. A total of 16 resolutions were so submitted. Those which were adopted, in numerical order as listed in the agenda, are the following:

Resolution Proposed as No. 1;
Adopted as No. 1

Whereas the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Retired Officers Association, as duly constituted from time to time, has performed its duties and functions in accordance with its Charter, the By-Laws, and the established purposes and principles of the Association during the past two years: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That the proceedings and acts of, and the elections and appointments made by, the Board of Directors from February 14, 1948, to the present date be, and the same are, hereby approved, ratified and confirmed; and, be it further

Resolved, That the proceedings and acts of, and the elections and appointments made by the Executive Committee since the last meeting of the Board of Directors, on December 7, 1949, be, and the same are, hereby approved, ratified and confirmed.

Resolution Proposed as No. 2;
Adopted as No. 2

Whereas there is under study in the Department of Defense a revision of the retirement laws relating to the armed services; and

Whereas it has been announced that the armed services committees of the Congress appreciate the necessity for the revision of retirement laws and anticipate receiving recommendations from the Department of Defense for such revision; and

Whereas in the study and submission of any retirement plan the question of whether and to what extent participation and contribution toward retired pay by service personnel should be included; and

Whereas in the study of any comprehensive retirement plan there should also be considered the proposition of including in retirement benefits granted to personnel, the addition of survivor benefits to their widows and dependent survivors; and

Whereas personnel retired previous to the effective date of any plan adopted have served under relatively corresponding conditions as to pay and service as those who may be on the active list of such services upon the initiation of any such plan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That it is the sense of this Association that any study of the retirement laws with a view to amendment, and recommendation made pursuant to such study, should include therein for those on the active lists the features of a participating retirement plan and survivor benefits, and that such plan be made applicable to the widows and dependent survivors of personnel heretofore retired on the theory of a constructive contribution having been made by their principals in the same manner as benefits may be extended to widows and survivors of personnel to be thereafter retired: And be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of Defense and the chairmen of the appropriate committee of the Congress.

Resolution Proposed as No. 3;
Adopted as No. 3

Whereas persons following military careers live under conditions which restrict their opportunity to acquire homes and build up savings to provide for their years after retirement; and

Whereas the retired pay partakes of the nature of an annuity provided by the government in lieu of higher rates of compensation possible in commercial endeavors; and

Whereas subjecting retired pay to income tax further reduces the benefits accorded by law to retired service personnel; and

Whereas it is generally considered that additional exemptions from taxes on incomes are properly accorded to persons in a retired status who are removed from productive enterprise by reason of physical disability or age or transference from the vocation in which they were trained: Now, therefore be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That this Association advocates and supports legislation that will grant income tax exemption of retired pay.

Resolution Proposed as No. 5;
Adopted as No. 4

Whereas under existing laws, retired military personnel are in some cases restricted, and in other cases prohibited, from accepting employment in civilian capacities under the Federal Government; and

Whereas relaxation in the restrictions and removal of the prohibitions against such dual employment would operate to the advantage of the Government in permitting the employment by the Government of retired military personnel whose experience and training have especially fitted them for the performance of non-military duties in many civilian capacities within the Government; and

Whereas the removal of existing restrictions would permit retired military personnel to enjoy the same opportunity of serving their Government in civilian capacities as is accorded other citizens; and

Whereas modification of the present laws has been recommended by the Executive Branch of the Government; and

Whereas a bill designed to accomplish such modification has passed the Senate and is now under consideration by a committee of the House of Representatives: Now, therefore be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That the Association recommends that action be taken to remove the present restrictions and prohibitions against dual employment of retired officers of the armed services: And be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the heads of appropriate Government Departments and the chairmen of appropriate committees of the Congress.

Resolution Proposed as No. 7;
Adopted as No. 5

Whereas certain of the present laws according pensions to widows of deceased service personnel are unduly limited in their possible benefits by reason of the provisions as to other income received by the intended beneficiaries; and

Whereas the effect of these laws is such that frugality, ability and saving is penalized thereby; and

Whereas the present ceilings on income, as fixed in the present pension laws, are completely unrealistic in view of the present costs of living; and

Whereas certain bills have been introduced in the Congress proposing to raise the income limits which now restrict the receipt of pensions for widows and surviving children of deceased service personnel: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That this Association advocate and support any legislation to remove such ceiling completely or which increases the limiting income to a realistic figure; and be it further

Resolved That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the heads of appropriate Government Departments and to the chairmen of the appropriate committees of the Congress.

Resolution Proposed as No. 8;
Adopted as No. 6

Whereas a large portion of the officer personnel of the military services is now authorized to credit for pay and longevity purposes, the years of their service as cadets, midshipmen, and aviation or flying cadets, while a segment of such officer personnel is not now authorized to credit such service; and

Whereas officers and enlisted men of the military services are now authorized to credit for pay and longevity purposes many types of service which do not involve actual active duty; and

Whereas service performed as cadets and as midshipmen is credited as

honorable military or naval service for retirement purposes under the terms of the Civil Service Retirement Act; and

Whereas service performed as cadets and as midshipmen is credited for pay and retirement purposes to enlisted personnel; and

Whereas officers of the military services are authorized to credit service at the service academies during the recognized dates of World War II for the purpose of laws administered by the Veterans Administration; and

Whereas service as cadets and midshipment consistently has been held legislatively, administratively and judicially to be full time military service, including decisions of the United States Supreme Court; and

Whereas the Department of Defense has submitted reports favorable in nature to the armed services committees of the Congress before which bills to credit such service are pending; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That it is the sense of this Association that authority should be extended to all military personnel to credit for pay and longevity purposes, service as cadets, midshipmen and aviation or flying cadets, so that all personnel may be on a basis of equality in this respect; and be it further

Resolved That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the heads of the appropriate Government Departments and the chairmen of the appropriate committees of Congress.

Resolution Proposed as No. 9;
Adopted as No. 7

Whereas during the depression period of the 1930's laws known as Economy Acts were enacted; and

Whereas such laws were intended to have equal application to both civilian and military personnel of the government; and

Whereas in their application certain small groups of military personnel through unintended interpretation of such laws were made to suffer larger and disproportionate losses in their pay than those suffered by civilian employees of the government and the larger portion of military personnel; and

Whereas these disproportionate losses were experienced through an interpretation of the Economy Laws so as to prevent increases in pay to which the said group of military personnel should have been entitled as the result of promotions in rank and responsibility; and

Whereas these disproportionate losses in their pay have resulted in unintended and unjust treatment of the military personnel affected; and

Whereas there is pending before the Congress a bill which would, if suitably amended, provide for the correction of this manifest injustice: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That the Association supports and urges the passage of this legislation during the present session of the Congress; and be it further

Resolved That copies of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the heads of appropriate Government Departments and to the chairmen of the appropriate committees of the Congress.

Resolution Proposed as No. 10;
Adopted as No. 8

Whereas appropriation bills for the Department of the Army and the Department of the Navy have heretofore contained provisions that no payments under such appropriations were to be made to any officer on the retired lists of the Regular Army or Regular Navy respectively, who for himself or for others was engaged in the selling of or contracting for the sale of or negotiating for the sale of any war materials or supplies to the department under which he held retired status; and

Whereas the appropriation bill for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year 1951 proposes materially to broaden the restrictions theretofore existing by prohibiting payments from the appropriations for the Department of Defense being made to any officer on the retired lists of the regular Army, regular Navy, regular Marine Corps, or regular Air Force who engages in such activities with any agency of the Department of Defense; and

Whereas there has not heretofore been nor is there now proposed any similar provision in other appropriation legislation affecting retired officers of other regular uniformed services; and

Whereas there has not heretofore been nor is there now proposed any similar provision in other appropriation legislation affecting retired officers of the reserve components of any of the military services of, or any civilian employees of the government, or of members of Congress; and

Whereas the prohibitory provisions would apply only to officers on the retired lists of the regular Army, regular Navy, regular Marine Corps, or regular Air Force and would therefore be discriminatory and unjust; and

Whereas the criminal laws of the United States either stringently prohibit all types of fraud, bribery, corruption and wrong doing in the conduct of business with the Federal Government or should be made to do so; and

Whereas the laws and Department regulations relating to retired personnel of the armed services also contain stringent provisions relating to the conduct of such personnel; and

Whereas retired personnel of the regular Army, regular Navy, regular Marine Corps, and regular Air Force should not be regarded or treated as a group from which misconduct or wrongdoing might be expected and therefore singled out for discriminatory restrictions; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That this Association recommends the deletion of such provision or any similiar provision from the appropriation legislation; and be it further

Resolved That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the heads of appropriate Government Departments and to the chairmen of the appropriate committees of the Congress.

Resolution Proposed as No. 11;
Adopted as No. 9

Whereas the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 provided for the establishment of boards for the correction of military records; and

Whereas the said Act did not authorize the appropriation of funds to implement the decisions of the said boards; and

Whereas the correction of military records sometimes involves the necessity of payments to those whose records have merited correction; and

Whereas there are pending in the Congress several bills, the purpose of which is to authorize the necessary expenditures to implement the determinations which are made in this field; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That this Association supports the enactment of this needed and just legislation; and be it further

Resolved That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the heads of appropriate Government Departments and to the chairmen of the appropriate committees of the Congress.

Resolution Proposed as No. 12;
Adopted as No. 10

Whereas it has come to the attention of the Association through the public press and service publications that there are certain stations at which service personnel are serving where suitable public schools are not available for the instruction of their children; and

Whereas the proper care and education of their children is a most important factor in the morale of service personnel; and

Whereas it is generally accepted by the people of these United States that the early and progressive education of children is a vital factor in the well being of our people and of our country; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That it is the sense of this Association that adequate provision should be made for the instruction of children of service personnel where suitable public schools are not available.

Resolution Proposed as No. 15;
Adopted as No. 11

Whereas it is recognized that regular officers devote their lives to a military career, have little opportunity to be assured of retired security other than retired pay and other benefits afforded by the government, and therefore have a major interest in the status of regular retired personnel, and

Whereas it is recognized that reserve personnel of all components, while having a great interest in their earned retirement privileges may not have exactly the same objectives as those of retired career personnel; and

Whereas it is, nevertheless, of major importance that all retired personnel, of all services, regular and reserve, unite in their efforts to secure and safeguard their respective earned retirement privileges; and

Whereas the number of retired officers of the reserve components who are eligible for membership in the Retired Officers Association will in time probably far exceed the number of retired career officers who are eligible; and

Whereas at the present time retired officers of the reserve components, constituting a material percentage of the total membership of the Retired Officers Association, do not have the full privileges of membership; and

Whereas it is possible that this condition might result in the formation of another association composed of retired officers of the reserve components which would have greater numerical strength than this association which would result in divided efforts, before the Congress and otherwise, which would be contrary to the interests of both regular and reserve retired personnel; and

Whereas all retired officers, in their own interests, should resolve any differences among themselves and present a united front to the public and the Congress; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That the President of this Association is hereby instructed to appoint a committee which shall include one member and one reserve member of the Association as defined in the By-Laws, from each of the services whose retired personnel are eligible for membership in this Association, and charge this committee with preparation of a plan, including proposed amendments to the By-Laws to implement the plan, which will give all members of the Association such privileges as will at the same time provide an adequate and appropriate system of checks and balances; and be it further

Resolved That the report of such committee shall be presented to the Board of Directors, and the Board of Directors shall take action thereon; and be it further

Resolved That the plan submitted by the committee and the action of the Board of Directors thereon shall be published in the Retired Officers Association Bulletin.

Resolution Proposed as No. 16;
Adopted as No. 12

Whereas the Officers, Board of Directors, and Staff of the Retired Officers Association have rendered outstanding service to all retired officers of all components of our Armed Services, by presenting the viewpoint of retired officers to Congress, by supporting needed legislation, by keeping members well informed through the "Retired Officers Association Bulletin," by rendering personal service, by supporting adequate national defense, and otherwise: Now, therefore be it

Resolved by the Retired Officers Association in convention assembled in the City of Washington, D. C., on 17 February 1950, That the membership of the Retired Officers Association, represented at the biennial convention, 17 February 1950, hereby records its appreciation of the services of the Officers, Board of Directors, and staff of the Association, and commends and thanks them for their untiring and effective efforts on behalf of all retired officers.

Resolution proposed as No. 4 was recommended for rejection and was withdrawn. Resolution proposed as No. 5 was offered in substitution and adopted as No. 4.

Resolution proposed as No. 6 was rejected.

Resolutions proposed as Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 were adopted as Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, respectively.

Resolution proposed as No. 13 was withdrawn.

Resolution proposed as No. 14 was recommended for rejection and was withdrawn. Resolution proposed as No. 15 was offered in substitution and was adopted as No. 11.

Resolution proposed as No. 16 was adopted as No. 12.

After final consideration of the resolutions they were re-numbered, as necessary, chronologically. The number of

each as adopted is noted and the adopted number is that which should be used in future reference to those resolutions.

A rising vote of thanks was extended to the Resolutions Committee for the splendid manner in which it had fulfilled its purposes.

The Officers' Reports Committee announced that a careful examination had been made of the reports from the variously required officers of the Association; that all were found to be adequate as to substance and correct as to facts. Accordingly, it was moved that they be accepted and approved as submitted. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

By unanimous consent, all of the following named Directors, whose terms had expired, were reappointed to serve for 4 years, expiring in 1954:

Colonel Lemuel Bolles, Hon.Res, USA (Ret)
Captain Frank S. Borden, USC&GS (Ret)
Rear Admiral Charles E. Coney, USN (Ret)
Commander Hugo Frankenberger, USN (Ret)
Vice Admiral Harry G. Hamlet, USCG (Ret)
Commander Lincoln Humphreys, USN (Ret)
Commander Frederick A. Hunnewell, USCG (Ret)
Lieutenant Commander Florence T. Judge, USNR (Ret)
Major General Louis McCarty Little, USMC (Ret)
Medical Director Bolivar J. Lloyd, USPHS (Ret)
Brigadier General Francis H. Pope, USA (Ret)
Brigadier General Charles D. Roberts, USA (Ret)
Major Frank Sherwood, USMC (Ret)
General Carl Spaatz, USAF (Ret)
Major General James A. Ulio, USA (Ret)

A recess was then called to permit a meeting of the Board of Directors.

It was moved that the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting of the Board of Directors held 7 December 1949 be dispensed with, because the minutes had already been approved and confirmed by the Convention. That motion was duly seconded and carried.

The President announced that a quorum was present.

Colonel Lemuel Bolles temporarily assumed the chair as Chairman.

Upon a motion which was seconded and carried all of the incumbent officers were unanimously re-elected.

Admiral Hamlet re-assumed the chair.

No further business being before the Board of Directors, its meeting was adjourned, and the program of the convention was resumed.

Having completed the regular order of business, and there being no new business, the Chairman, Admiral Hamlet, then addressed the convention conveying his warmest appreciation to the membership for their loyal and enthusiastic support of and their confidence in the purposes and objectives of the Association, together with their manifestations of approbation as to the manner in which those aims are being pursued. In conclusion, he stated that with a continuation of that splendid spirit of unified cooperation and backing, the future outlook for the Retired Officers Association is not only bright, but holds great promise in behalf of improved and expanded effectiveness in carrying out its stated mission—that of safeguarding and promoting, in every possible and proper way, the best interests of retired officers, their dependents and survivors.

Closing with a benediction, the convention was at 12:15 p.m., adjourned.

THE BIENNIAL CONVENTION LUNCHEON, MAYFLOWER HOTEL, WASHINGTON 17 FEBRUARY 1950

Members then repaired to the Sapphire Room for the convention luncheon. Abounded by an air of good-fellowship, accompanied by appropriate music rendered superbly by the Marine Band Orchestra under the direction of Second Leader Henry Weber, that occasion was highlighted further by a host of honored and distinguished guests, including:

The Hon. Marx Leva, Assistant Secretary of Defense—Speaker

The Hon. Gordon Gray, Secretary of the Army

Major General Carl R. Gray, Administrator of Veterans Affairs

Rear Admiral John W. Roper, representing the Secretary

of the Navy

Vice Admiral Merlin O'Neill Commandant of the Coast Guard

Assistant Surgeon General R. C. Williams of the Public Health Service

Colonel E. B. LeBailly, USAF, Chief of the National Organizations Information Branch, Department of Defense

A transcript of the remarks Secretary Leva delivered at the luncheon are published elsewhere in this issue.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR 1949.

FOREWORD

There is presented herewith to the membership an accounting of the activities of the Retired Officers Association during the year 1949 in its progressive development as an organization of service to retired personnel and those dependent upon them. Although that is its primary purpose, this report should also be of interest to those eligible to membership and to those on the active lists, many of whom will, in the normal course of their careers, join their brethren in retired status and thus themselves become eligible to participate in the achievement of our purposes and objectives.

At the outset let me state that the progress I am happy to be able to report to you, and the commendatory things I am proud to spread upon this record regarding accomplishments, are due entirely to sound principles established by the Board of Directors, the splendid loyalty of my staff in carrying them out, and the support of an enthusiastic membership.

NINETEEN FORTY-NINE has witnessed the greatest expansion in our services to members and the most extensive use of those services than in any single year in the history of the Association. It has witnessed a gratifying expansion in membership. It has witnessed a great increase in our activities in representing the interests of retired officers and their dependents and survivors and a formalization of the procedures which control them. It has witnessed a material improvement in our financial resources and in our ability to meet such further expansions as may prove necessary. Finally, it has witnessed an advance in the dissemination of information to our membership concerning matters of interest to them and those dependent upon them through the media of the Bulletin, other releases and personal correspondence.

Indeed, it may be said that the past year has been one of outstanding progress and achievement of the Association. The net products of its efforts have increased and they will continue and improve. In short, the Association's effectiveness has reached new heights, and is still climbing.

Every member of the staff has been faithful to the task of following the Association's primary mission. That mission, as set forth in the By-Laws, is to support wholeheartedly the interests of retired officers by protecting and preserving their present benefits, rights and privileges, as well as promoting their future rights and, at the same time, to maintain a sound and progressive program seeking to improve the opportunities of their dependents and survivors. Never before has there been greater need for the type of representation *your* Association provides—nor will that need end with the year just brought to a close.

The need for the Association's continued efforts is most interestingly and succinctly stated in a letter from one of our members: "In this ever-changing world, with the necessity for *group unity* to protect the security of our Country and the just security of the members of our Services, especially in their inactive declining and unproductive years, the Association is essential".

PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

The Association's purpose and objectives have so often been outlined that it is felt all are now generally familiar with them. A cardinal factor which should be re-emphasized, however, is that this is an era of organization. Organization provides strength and the will to accomplish that which is right and deserving.

Suffice it to say that the structure of *your* Association rests on a foundation firmly supported by the wisdom, foresight and sound judgment of its founders. It was their view that retired officers should and must have a focal point around which they and their dependents might rally.

That view sets forth succinctly our paramount purpose. Our objective is to accomplish those things which go to make retired status a more secure and happier one.

ORGANIZATION

Obviously, because of the many who have become members during the past year, the Association's activities have become more numerous and varied. This has resulted, not alone from the great increase in membership, but also from the development of the services available to our members and their dependents.

To keep pace with that constantly increasing tempo, an already hard-working staff has been required to work even harder. But here again, with a definite objective in view and with a full measure of co-operation and backing by a unified membership, extra duties have been assumed and carried out in stride.

During the past year, in view of the expanding workload, it was found necessary to make some additions to the staff. The Association has been fortunate in acquiring, on a part-time basis, the services of Commander Harold B. Corwin, USN, to assist in legislative matters and Lieutenant Colonel John H. Coffman, USMC, to assist in legal and administrative matters in connection with personal services to our members. At the end of the year in addition to the Executive Vice President and Legal Counsel, my staff included a secretary-treasurer, two attorneys, the Editor of the Bulletin, two assistants for membership administration, and two secretarial assistants.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING 1949

In addition to the improvements in membership, financial condition, service to our members and their dependents, the development in our scholarship program, and the improvement in the dissemination of information through the Bulletin and otherwise, all of which were mentioned in the foreword and will be dealt with more in detail later in this statement, the Association has energetically represented the interests of its membership in an expanding liaison with departments and agencies of the government and with the Congress.

Due to the increasing demand for service and the greater number of legislative problems incident to the establishment and maintenance of the rights, benefits and privileges of retired officers and those dependent upon them, the established procedures for the handling of such matters have become more systematized. Under the systematized procedures every suggestion and recommendation made by any member, regardless of the importance of his proposal, receives the same manner of treatment and measure of consideration as do the policies and procedures suggested by the staff or initiated by the Board of Directors itself. Under these procedures, suggestions and proposals are first considered by the legislative counsel, then by the legal counsel, who together do the necessary research in connection with each

proposal and the manner is then referred to the President for his determination. Minor matters of policy and modifications of policies already established are determinated on the basis of the broad policies established by the Board of Directors. More important matters which require action before the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors are referred to the Executive Committee for determination and all such matters are ultimately presented to the Board of Directors at its next regular meeting for approval or confirmation or otherwise of such determinations.

The activities of the Association in this broad field of endeavor have been reported from time to time to the membership in the Bulletin. During the past year the major portion of the work in the field of legislation has been devoted to the important subject of pay and retirement legislation which culminated in the Career Compensation Act of 1949. This in itself alone was a difficult subject involving complex problems affecting all retired personnel, bringing a prodigious amount of work to the staff which has devoted itself wholeheartedly to the task in a conscientious effort to promote the best interests of retired personnel generally.

While it is realized that the aspirations of all were not fully realized in every respect, nevertheless the majority of retired personnel surely benefited by the representations which were prepared and presented on their behalf.

Beside the accomplishment in the field of pay and retirement legislation, the law restricting retired officers from representing others before departments and agencies of the government was modified as to remove that restriction in a large measure. Likewise the complex subject of dual compensation appears to be well along the road toward clarification in view of the passage by the Senate of a bill to codify and amend the laws which have heretofore stood against the opportunity of the government to employ capable retired officers in civilian positions and against the opportunities of the retired officers themselves to continue to serve their government like other American citizens. The early leading position of our Association in recommending these reforms is well known. There has been progress toward the accomplishment of other aims, both tangible and intangible. These have been reported from time to time in the Bulletin and in the annual Report of your President for 1948 and will be covered in the report of the Legal Counsel to the Convention.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Expansion—During 1949 there was a substantial and most gratifying increase in our membership. At the beginning of the year there was a total of 13,302 members. At the end of the year we had 16,633 on our rolls, a gain of 3,331 during the year. Included in this increase were 186 new members as the result of the merging of the Retired Officers League with our Association in February, 1949.

Reserve Membership—Of the 16,633 members in the Association at the end of 1949, 6,397 were Reserve Members or 38.4 per cent of the total membership. The total of such memberships at the beginning of the year was 4,611, the increase during the year being 1,876.

The Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and the staff have given, and will continue to give, to the interests of retired personnel of the Reserve components and their dependents and survivors the same measure of consideration as is given to those of all other groups of our membership and those dependent upon them.

Our Reserve Members enjoy all rights, benefits, privileges and services, save for the voting privilege on matters submitted to the membership. They may, under certain rules, make motions and offer resolutions at biennial conventions. On the Board of Directors are three Reserve Members each of whom has full voting privileges in the Board. One is a retired Reserve officer of the Army, a founding member and former national officer of the American Legion. One is a retired officer of the Naval Reserve, and our secretary and treasurer. The third is a retired Reserve Wave officer.

The non-voting status of our Reserve Members was reconsidered during the past year, both by the Executive Committee and by the Board of Directors. It was decided that for the present this status would remain unchanged. This action of the Board of Directors confirmed the policy of the Association with regard to this question, established in 1947. This policy stems from the creation of the Retired Officers Association as an organization to represent the interests of retired career personnel of the services, when their rights, benefits and privileges are under consideration. It was felt by the Board that this could best be accomplished under the present requirements, while at the same time giving the fullest consideration to the interests of those of the Reserve components through the exercise of the voting privilege by their representatives on the Board of Directors.

The repeated decisions to limit the voting privilege to the career groups has been based upon the thesis that this Association was founded originally to provide service to career personnel and their dependents. In 1947 the Board of Directors, after repeated applications for membership from retired reserves not then eligible, considered thoughtfully the proposition of extending to retired reserves the same benefits accorded career personnel in the form of services to its members and their dependents, while at the same time preserving the control of the Association in the hands of career personnel.

The Board of Directors could have taken the stand that there were other organizations open to reserves which could espouse the cause of retired reserves if they had chosen to do so, and therefore, this Association need not concern itself with the welfare of retired reserves. But the Board did not take that stand. On the contrary the Board decided to offer reserve membership to retired reserves thus extending the helping hand of all of the Association's advantages while insuring control of the Association in the hands of career personnel by withholding from reserves the privilege of voting, except the vote accorded their representatives on the Board of Directors.

Even though membership was offered to and accepted by large numbers of reserves with full understanding of the existing limitation upon voting, there is a growing feeling among some reserves in and out of our Association for the unrestricted voting privilege, and among some others, for that privilege, safeguarded by some provision that will continue control by career personnel.

In my judgment the policy of retaining control in the career segment of the membership is sound. Surely it is as sound, as, for instance, some Service clubs which operate that way. Also, practically every organization reserves to itself the right to define the qualifications of its members, and, very often, to divide its membership into segments with varying rights and privileges.

This is not to say or even to infer that those of that very welcome and highly esteemed body of reserves who make up thirty-eight per cent of our membership do not have support in logic in seeking the vote, but rather to say that the career portion of our membership, from long and constant service training and handling the affairs of the uniformed services, including the reserve components, are more likely to make a success of handling those same affairs for retired personnel, both reserve and career, and that, therefore, the conduct of those affairs should be guided by career personnel so that they may prosper and progress with continuity. This matter should receive further study by a properly constituted committee which should evaluate all of the considerations involved to the end that a solution which will receive the

support of all of the segments of our membership may be evolved.

Membership Development—It is clear that, to continue our activities on a progressive basis, we must have as large a membership as possible. Certainly, those of our members who have witnessed the Association's forward movement are those best qualified to preach its value and worth to all retired officers.

Only by a continued healthy growth can we extend an ever-increasing amount of service to our members and their dependents. Accordingly, we ask that our members acquaint those who are eligible to membership with the advantages of membership in the Retired Officers Association and with its purposes, objectives and progress.

FINANCIAL CONDITION

During 1949 the total of unobligated assets in the Association's treasury increased by $11,109.08 from a total of $28,368.00 to $39,477.08. These sums are exclusive of the Association's Scholarship Fund and consist of cash in bank and United States Bonds.

The Association's finances, while sound, cannot be considered entirely adequate. Expenditures are maintained well within receipts through careful budgeting. This is accomplished principally because of our good fortune in having a small but competent staff to handle efficiently the substantial and mounting workload. As our activities expand—and they are constantly expanding—the need for additional personnel becomes apparent. That need will continue to increase with increasing membership, but the increased revenues should provide the necessary funds. In addition to the personnel problem, our Association has outgrown its present office space and is now looking for appropriate and adequate quarters. Authority has been granted by the Board of Directors to lease new quarters at a monthly rental not to exceed $300.

It has been the policy of the Board of Directors to devote the major part of income to expenditures that will enhance the services the Association can render its members, and a reasonable lesser part to unobligated assets.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

As a result of the many generous voluntary contributions made to the Association's Scholarship Fund, which was initiated late in 1948, a total of $1816.00 was on hand as of 31 December 1949.

The purpose of that program is to offer assistance through loans, limited to $300, as proved by the plan to:

(1) Sons of retired officers (living or deceased) who have met successfully all requirements for appointment to the Military, Naval or Coast Guard Academies, but whose economic situation renders them unable to supply the necessary money deposit on entrance.

(2) Sons or daughters of retired officers (living or deceased) desiring to enter and accepted for entrance into an accredited college or university of their choice, but unable to meet all required expenses.

(3) Sons or daughters of retired officers (living or deceased) where real need is indicated for financial aid to pursue further a college or university education then in progress.

Your Board of Directors, acting as the Board of Governors of the Scholarship Fund administers that plan. Eligibility for aid thereunder is made in such manner as will permit equitable distribution of available funds. Loans, to be repaid as soon as the recipient is able to do so, will be authorized from among the most deserving applicants, based upon highest character, scholastic aptitude and need.

Applications for such scholarship loans must be accompanied by full and complete information upon which the Board of Governors may act, and be supported by written evidence as to scholastic ability and character from reputable persons in the immediate vicinity in which the applicant resides.

No scholarship awards have been made. Our efforts so far have been directed to building up the fund. The existence of this program has been publicized through the Bulletin and it is to be hoped that requests for aid will soon be received from those persons it is our desire to help under the plan.

THE BULLETIN

The Association's Bulletin, the means by which members are informed of our activities, has enhanced its value in a manner comparable to the overall development of the Association. Its circulation has attained nearly 20,000. The number of requests received for copies from official non-member sources indicates clearly that your Bulletin is becoming recognized as an authorative source of helpful information on current trends bearing upon those subjects of vital concern and interest to retired officers and their dependents.

The year ahead should see a continuation of improvement in reporting our activities with every effort directed toward increasing further the value of the Bulletin to the membership's understanding and knowledge of our operations. Additional supplemental notices will be promulgated to the membership from time to time as circumstances warrant.

In his final report to the last convention, our revered former President, the late Admiral David Foote Sellers, USN, in speaking of the increase in comprehensiveness and usefulness of the Bulletin, stated it to be his opinion that we should not be satisfied with the improvement which had taken place but that we should strive for an expanded and improved medium and that a monthly edition should be our goal. With that view I concur and hope that the day will not be too far distant when the Bulletin can be published more frequently.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Association faces the future with constantly increasing demands for service. More and more of our members and their dependents and survivors are availing themselves of the Association as a medium for the solution of their personal problems. Expansion in membership and the availability of the services themselves bring these increasing demands. It appears clear that it will be necessary from time to time to add to the staff to cope with the work incident to these expanding services.

Numerous items of legislation bearing upon retired status are still pending in the Congress. Some of these will no doubt be considered during the forthcoming session of Congress. Our Association has asked to be heard on many of these items and will be alert to the opportunities to present its views on other matters which may be considered.

There was published in our Bulletin for the first quarter, 1950, under "Legislative Outlook for the Year Ahead", a general statement on the subject of pending legislation and other items which might come up for consideration, which statement is submitted as part of this report.

We are entering a year when the Association, in behalf of its fast-growing membership, must intensify its efforts to create conditions to bring about advancement and progress in the handling of those questions which affect, directly or indirectly, the destinies of retired officers.

To accomplish that will require careful planning based upon exhaustive study and research, broadening of our liaison with all departments and agencies of the Government having jurisdiction over the affairs of retired officers, and detailed attention to an ever-expanding volume of correspondence. Moreover, financial accounting, membership records, statistical data and other business procedures must be maintained currently wtih accuracy and correctness.

The staff will devote itself to the achievement of those objectives. The constant search for new and improved methods of furnishing the best possible service to our members will continue. The energy and skill of the entire staff will be directed unceasingly toward further improvement of that service.

Our best efforts will further be directed toward the continued business-like operation of the Association with the same sense of balance and appreciation of values which have brought it successfully through changing economic conditions, and toward the establishment of understanding relations with and the recognition of human values for, those who have rendered valuable military service in defense of our country.

CONCLUSION

1949, like 1948, was a successful one for the Association. This is stated with a realization that, however successful, we must not be complacent about our accomplishments. We must look to the future. The many notable accomplishments during 1949 have been due in large measure to the inspiration derived by the management—the Board of Directors, the officers, and the staff—from the faith and confidence manifested by the membership. Much more hard work remains to be done in the months and in the years ahead. However, with the loyal backing and support of the increasingly large number of retired personnel who will derive benefit by joining together for the common good, we are able to look to the future with confidence and assurance that the problems of the future will be met successfully.

With the continued backing and encouragement from the membership, with the prestige which our members lend to the dignity of the Association, and with the assistance to its maintenance by their financial support, it is my view and belief that our Association will continue to fulfill its mission.

In closing this report I wish to extend to each of the Directors my thankful acknowledgement of this helpful confidence in my staff and in me; to the chairman and members of the various committees my sincere appreciation of their conscientious spade-work in solving our many problems; to each member of my staff and particularly to Captain Franz O. Willenbucher, Executive Vice President and Legal Counsel. the spark plug of the organization, my approbation for his industry and interest and my thanks for his loyalty; and to our indulgent landlord, Mr. Thomas F. Bourke, Executive Vice President of the United Services Life Insurance Company, my appreciation of his patience in tolerating us as tenants when the space occupied by us is so urgently needed by his own organization.

Faithfully yours,
H. G. HAMLET
Vice Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard, Retired
President

(Ed. note: The President of the Association's Annual Report for the year 1948, which completes the two-year period covered by the Convention, was published in the 2nd Qrtr-1949 Bulletin, starting at p. 37).

REPORTS OF EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND LEGAL COUNSEL

Following are the highlights of the combined reports submitted by Captain F. O. Willenbucher, USN, Retired, in his capacity as the Association's Executive Vice President and Legal Counsel, covering the period from the previous biennial convention to date:

As outlined in the report of the President the Association has grown rapidly during the past two years. At the time the last convention was held, including the President the Association had five employees. It now has ten. At the time of the last convention the Executive Vice President was ex-officio Treasurer. He was also editor of the Bulletin. During the past two years the office of Treasurer was combined with that of Secretary and vested in one individual. The editorship of the Bulletin was created as a separate responsibility and vested in another. The Executive Vice President at the time of the last convention was and is at this time also Legal Counsel. The development in the work before the Association has been such as to require the services of two additional attorneys, one for legislative matters on a full-time temporary basis, and one for administrative legal matters on a permanent part-time basis.

The accomplishments of the Association and its development have been covered in the report of the President. In his report it was stated that further information concerning legislative matters would be covered in the report of the Legal Counsel, which is appended hereto.

In speaking of our accomplishments, it is appropriate to say that the greatest inspiration as well as satisfaction in the efforts of the staff come from the enthusiastic and wholehearted support of our constantly growing membership. Our national headquarters has been deluged with many generous expressions of confidence both by letter and by personal calls of our members. Those expressions of approval for our efforts, frequently accompanied by helpful suggestions, have been a source of considerable influence in the shaping of our varied programs for effective action on behalf of retired officers and their dependents and survivors. This is not to say that we have not received expressions of disapprobation which have been much fewer in number, but sometimes more vigorously presented. Patience and generosity being more usually and more easily expressed than criticism, we have chosen to discount to a degree expressions of praise even though, being human, we appreciate them and have placed greater emphasis upon the expression of disapproval in order to arrive at a true evaluation of the effectiveness of the methods and procedures which are followed to achieve our purposes and objectives. We shall continue to do that in the best interests of all concerned.

Two years ago, on the occasion of the Biennial Convention, on 14 February 1948, nineteen resolutions were adopted. One was a proforma resolution, three accomplished changes in the By-Laws, one authorized certain action with reference to dues by the Board of Directors, one pronounced the Association's support for the then pending proposal for universal military training, and one honored our former President. The remaining twelve resolutions covered recommendations of the Association for the enactment of legislation to enlarge the opportunities of retired personnel in important respects or to remove certain existing discriminations as between the retirement opportunities of retired personnel.

Six of the substantive recommendations of the Association contained in those resolutions have received recognition in the enactment of new laws during the past two years. A system has been established for the retirement of Reservists. Opportunity to retire in the highest rank in which satisfactory service was performed has been extended to retired personnel of the Army and Air Force. Similar opportunity has been extended to those who served in higher temporary ranks in World War I insofar as the application of the new pay rates in the Career Compensation Act of 1949 are concerned. Opportunity to retire in the highest rank in which satisfactory service has been performed has also been extended to the Coast & Geodetic Survey and the Public Health Service. Equality in retirement opportunities has been substantially established for nurses retired prior to the effective date of the legislation establishing the Nurses Corps of the Army and Navy enacted by the 79th Congress. The restriction against prosecution of claims against the government by retired officers on behalf of others has been removed. Hence, it will be noted that, of twelve proposals, six of the more im-

portant ones have received recognition.

The remaining six proposals, covered by the resolutions adopted at the previous Convention, covered the following subjects: (1) Dual Employment and Dual Compensation; (2) the crediting of service performed by cadets, midshipmen, aviation cadets and flying cadets; (3) extension of terminal leave benefits to those not covered by terminal leave laws; (4) the establishment of a participating retirement plan with survivor benefits; (5) the removal of the inequity as to the use of 75 per cent as the multiple for the computation of retired pay by those who served in World War I under the provisions of the Pay Readjustment Act of 1942; and (6) the extension of review of the Public 190 cases to those who applied for voluntary retirement during the course of the proceedings in their cases. The first five of these provisions are under consideration in the Congress. The sixth was considered by the 80th Congress and the proposal was not found acceptable by it.

Our Association has notified the responsible agencies and the Congressional Committees having cognizance of its interest in the above mentioned matters and with reference to certain other matters which are under consideration which would affect the opportunities and interest of retired personnel. It has asked to be heard in these matters when hearings are held before the Congressional Committees, and our Association will present its views when hearings are held on those and numerous other subjects which may directly or indirectly affect retired officers and their dependents and survivors.

In each issue of the Bulletin, information is published concerning pending legislation of interest to retired personnel. The latest report on that subject appeared in the Bulletin for the 1st Quarter 1950, pages 4 to 7 inclusive, which is hereby adopted as part of this report. That article covered a brief discussion of pending consideration of the dual employment and dual compensation laws; the proposed increase in the income limit for widows who are entitled to pensions as the result of descendents' war service in World War I and World War II; the crediting of services performed by cadets, midshipmen, aviation cadets, and flying cadets; reimbursement for pay losses under the economy laws; the establishment of parity in retired pay for officers retired prior to 1 June 1942 who served in World War I under the provisions of the Pay Readjustment Act of 1942; the removal of the inequity with regard to retirement in the rank of Lieut. Commander for certain Lieutenants of the Navy who served in World War I; the promotion on the retired list of certain enlisted men of the Army to ranks bestowed on them during battle; certain legislation dealing with dispensary treatment and hospitalization; and other items. Other matters have been added to the agenda of legislative proposals which should receive support and action by the Association. These will be reported upon from time to time in the Bulletin.

As the President has pointed out in his report, consideration by the legal staff of the Association of legislative matters and suggestions from our members with reference to them, has been so systematized that all matters are given the same manner of treatment to the end that no reasonable proposal shall fail of adequate consideration. The volume of work incident to this program has increased greatly since the last Convention, and until all inequities which have crept into the retirement and pay laws have been corrected, will certainly occupy much time and attention in the future.

This work must be done by staff members who have been trained in that field, who have had experience in dealing with personnel and retirement legislation of the associated services. The Association is fortunate in having, during the past two years, acquired two such persons on its staff, Commander Harold B. Corwin, USN, Retired and Lieut. Colonel J. H. Coffman, USMC, Retired, both of whom are attorneys with extensive experience.

While the accomplishments during the past two years have been gratifying which is borne out by the fact that 50 per cent of the proposals for which support was voted by the last Convention have been realized, much more remains to be done. The Convention is assured that every effort will be made by the staff in every proper manner to accomplish those things which this Convention may adopt, and such other proposals may be approved by the duly authorized representatives of the Association during the interim between conventions.

REMARKS OF HON. MARX LEVA, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, TO THE BIENNIAL CONVENTION LUNCHEON, 17 FEBRUARY 1950

Following is an outline of the remarks delivered by the Hon. Marx Leva, Assistant Secretary of Defense, at the Association's biennial convention luncheon in the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, on Friday, 17 February 1950:

Admiral Hamlet and I had quite a discussion both by phone and by letter as to my giving a speech today. I told him I was not going to give a speech. This comes under the category of remarks. I told him it would be relatively novel for Washington luncheon audiences not to have a principal speaker, so this will be relatively brief. You are lucky.

I would like to take one word of exception to what Admiral Hamlet said. He said I was a navigator of an LST. The only navigating I did resulted in running one of Admiral Roper's ships onto a mine. However, I managed to go in and out of Chesapeake Bay without any trouble. I was in that part of the Navy where you were supposed to go aground. I didn't know until the MISSOURI did that it was wrong. The only thing that was wrong was to go aground stern first.

It is a great pleasure to be here today. I talked to Secretary Johnson before leaving the Pentagon and he asked me to be sure to express to all of you his great regret that he was unable to be present and to express his high regard for the organization and all the things you are doing.

He did not comment on this aspect, but he would want me to do so. We are indebted to the retired officers. General Burns is serving with Secretary Johnson as his Special Assistant, and he is holding an appointment from the President under the military aid program and is doing a magnificent job in that capacity. General Burns would subscribe to the remark which Vice President Barkley made last night. He was introduced as one who might be described as an elder statesman. He said he wanted to take advantage of his privilege as a former member of Congress and the Senate to strike the word "elder" from the record.

Since the Retired Officers Association is usually known to consist of the elder statesmen, I am sure you would want to strike the word "elder" from that phrase. Since this is the 21st birthday of your organization, you can probably get away with it better than the Vice President can.

I would like to discuss just briefly what it is that we are trying to accomplish in the economy program with which we are going forward in the Department of Defense. I think a press release we put out two days ago gives a pretty apt illustration of what we are trying to accomplish. I would like to refer to that.

I have reference to a press release which spoke of the reduced commission status of the MISSOURI. The main thing the press release talked about was the MISSOURI, and we are at fault in not highlighting what that meant. The announcement was really one that the active combatant forces of the next year would consist of seven large aircraft carriers instead of six as provided in the President's budget, and the source of the seventh would be the savings which had been generated throughout the naval establishments in various ways, including the reduced commission status of the MISSOURI.

That is a point that needs emphasizing, for this reason: The economy program has been pictured as a program of economy for economy's sake. It is far more than that. It is a program of saving dollars wherever possible, because every dollar that we do not spend increases the health of the national economy. That is a consideration that is important to the Secretary of the Treasury, the Bureau of the Budget and to each of us as citizens and taxpayers.

But to Secretary Johnson, as Secretary of Defense, to the Secretaries of the several Services and to me as Assistant Secretary of Defense, it is of greater importance that, by reducing overhead and other expenses wherever possible, we generate funds which can go into stronger, competent forces. That is why I mention the illustration of the additional aircraft carrier which is to be added to the Pacific Fleet out of savings generated from other sources.

Secretary Johnson, in a speech he gave earlier this week before the Federal Bar Association at the Department of Justice, used a description which I would like to steal from him; since not too many of you are members of the Federal Bar Association, maybe I can get by with it.

He was describing what all the shooting was about and what it was that we were trying to accomplish. Before going into that, I think I better take advantage of an offer Secretary Gray made to let me use one of his copyrighted stories. Both he and I on several occasions have explained the difficulties which we have admittedly encountered in the unification process in these terms.

We have been fond of saying that we must bear in mind that unification really represented a marriage of the services. The Army had existed for 150 years as an independent executive department and the Navy for 150 years. The Army has been very anxious to have unification; the Navy somewhat less anxious. What really happened was that there was a marriage of the services and the old bachelor and the old maid had been used to living alone and liking it and there had to be adjustments. The particular point that Secretary Gray authorized me to use was that the younger brother of the groom, the Air Force, moved in as an in-law on the day of the marriage, which didn't simplify matters.

But to get back to Mr. Johnson's remarks, because I think they point up the picture very well, I would reconstruct them in my own fashion about as follows: He said that the fundamental problems with which we were dealing could really be boiled down into three questions. The first question was: If we should again be victims of aggression, what did we have to do? He said that the answer to what we have to do in terms of an emergency war plan had been worked out by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Secretary Forrestal prior to the time he took office.

The second question that had to be resolved was: Who does it? That, too, had been worked out as a result of the Key West and Newport conferences, at which Secretary Forrestal presided.

The third question was: What does it take to do it? That is where the trouble always comes in because that involves who gets how much money to do it. In any household the decision as to how much the wife gets and how much the husband gets may be amicably settled, but that is where any trouble that arises may arise.

The third problem of what does it take to do it was one on which General Eisenhower and the Joint Chiefs of Staff were embarked at the time Secretary Johnson took office. It was resolved shortly after he took office, with the result that the budget submitted to Congress represented a thoroughly integrated budget for the first time in our history or at least since 1798, because the original War Department embraced the Department of the Navy. I should have gone back of my story and said they got a divorce in 1798 and got married again in 1949.

Those three questions are the guts of our problem. Secretary Johnson said that those are the three panels of our job. Then there is a fourth panel which consists of the "Sandy Hooks," the things that are outmoded—the things that are no longer needed—and it is in that panel that we hope to effect the economies to put the money into the panels where it counts, into fighting strength.

That is the program on which we are embarked. With the assistance and help and cooperaiton that we have from your organization and other organizations in large measure, we know that we shall go forward with the job of providing a stronger and more efficient Department of Defense at a reduced cost to the taxpayer.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Definite action has been taken toward pursuing further those items of pending legislation listed in the legislative outlook for the current year, published in the 1st Quarter—1950 Bulletin. Letters have been addressed to the Committees to which those proposals have been referred, requesting that opportunity be afforded to present our views with reference to them when hearings are scheduled. Replies from the several Chairmen of those Committees assures that privilege will be accorded.

Of the measures on which the Association has asked to be heard, only the following two have been called for hearings to date:

WARTIME ADVANCEMENT INEQUITIES—Hearings on S. 780 and H.R. 2533 were called, 2 February 1950, by a House Armed Services Sub-committee. S. 780, originally introduced as a private bill for the relief of Commander Edward White Rawlins, USN, had been amended by the Senate to a general bill authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to review the records of commissioned officers who had failed of advancement during the war, in which form it passed the Senate on 6 July 1949. Our President, Admiral Hamlet, appeared to testify, but upon adjournment of the Committee after a full morning spent in testimony of numerous witnesses without Admiral Hamlet being called, the Chairman suggested that he file his statement for the Committee's consideration. In that statement Admiral Hamlet supported the principles embodied in the bill as it passed the Senate with the additional proposal that the bill be broadened so as to afford relief to similarly situated officers of the other services inasmuch as attention had been drawn to cases within the Coast Guard and Marine Corps meriting equal consideration with naval officers in the event the review proposed by the legislation was granted. A date for further hearings by the Sub-committee has not yet been assigned.

BATTLEFIELD PROMOTIONS—Hearings were also held before a House Armed Services Sub-committee on S. 2559, to authorize the extension of officers' retirement benefits to certain persons who, while serving as enlisted men in the Army of the United States during World War II, were given battlefield promotions to officer grade and were incapacitated for active service as a result of enemy action. That bill passed the Senate 27 September 1949. The Association's statement in support of that bill was submitted on the basis of its great interest in the affairs of all retired officers. To date the bill has not been reported to the full Committee for consideration.

Additional matters of interest to retired officers which are before the various committees of the Congress for action and, on which the Association has made request to be heard, include:

CADET-MIDSHIPMAN SERVICE — Not only has the Association requested to be heard by the Senate and House Armed Services Committees on the bills pending before them (S. 631 and H.R. 978), but has drafted amendments to those bills so as to bring them within the present laws governing the crediting of service and the application of service credits to pay of members of the armed services, particularly making

them applicable to the Career Compensation Act of 1949.

PAY LOSSES UNDER ECONOMY LAWS—S. 1119, to authorize settlement for certain inequitable pay losses sustained by officers of the commissioned services under the emergency economy legislation has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee. It is hoped that early hearings will be held and that the strong supporting statement prepared by the Association will inspire favorable consideration of legislation to correct that long-existing inequity. The Association believes that former inaction on that bill resulted from the provisions as drafted and reported upon by the Department of Defense, being much broader than necessary to correct the injustice. In its statement the Association will point out that situation and propose a limiting amendment which will accomplish the purpose without granting benefits that are neither deserved nor intended. It is felt that that correction of the proposed legislation should meet with the approval of the Department of Defense as well as by the Committee.

The following matters on which the Association has requested permission to appear and make statements have not yet been scheduled for hearings. Supporting statements either have been or are being prepared as to each and, where amendments to the bills appear necessary, those also are in preparation and will be presented:

DUAL EMPLOYMENT (S. 2351 and H.R. 6356). Consideration of those bills has been assigned to a House Post Office and Civil Service Sub-committee, but hearings have not yet been scheduled;

TERMINAL LEAVE CREDIT FOR RETIRED AND RETAINED OFFICERS (S. 2222 and H.R. 5529);

EQUITABLE ADJUSTMENT OF RETIRED PAY FOR CERTAIN NAVAL OFFICERS (S. 2145 and H.R. 5350);

RECIPROCAL HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY TREATMENT FOR RETIRED OFFICERS IN ARMY AND NAVY HOSPITALS (H.R. 1181);

INCREASED INCOME LIMIT FOR WIDOWS' BENEFITS (H.R. 4617);

PARITY OF RETIRED PAY FOR WORLD WAR I OFFICERS (H.R. 3266 and S. 577); and

CREDIT OF CADET-MIDSHIPMAN SERVICE IN WORLD WAR I FOR PURPOSES OF VETERANS ADMINISTRATION LAWS (H.R. 5269).

Some new legislation of interest to our members has been introduced since the beginning of the 2nd Session, 81st Congress. As to the first two of the below noted matters, the Association has already requested to be heard when the bills are considered before the appropriate committees:

CLAIMS ARISING FROM THE CORRECTION OF MILITARY OR NAVAL RECORDS — companion bills S. 2854 and H.R. 3581, proposing to amend section 207 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 so as to authorize payment of claims arising from the correction of military or naval records.

PROMOTION OF CERTAIN RETIRED OFFICERS OF THE REGULAR NAVY RECALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY DURING WORLD WAR II—(S. 2906).

AMENDMENT OF SECTION 302 OF THE SERVICEMEN'S READJUSTMENT ACT OF 1944 AS AMENDED (S. 2234 and H.R. 5604) propose generally to establish review boards for physically disabled retired Reserve personnel of all services.

Aside from those matters which concern retired officers in a direct and important manner there are numerous bills which have been introduced that are of passing interest. As to those the staff merely follows their progress in the Congress and observes developments and changes in the proposals or development or growth of opposition. In the event that the situation changes so that those matters become of vital interest to our membership, direct action is taken to make known the Association's interest and support. Bills introduced in the 2nd Session, 81st Congress in this category are:

H.R. 6721 and H.R. 6725, retirement benefits for civilian marine inspectors in the Coast Guard; H.R. 6722, to provide additional benefits for former lighthouse service in the Coast Guard; H.R. 6825, to extend the time limit for the award of decorations; H.R. 6918, to provide for the posthumous award of the Purple Heart for World War I; H.R. 6952, to provide benefits for Philippine service between 4 July 1902 and 1 June 1914; H.R. 6957, to provide for an Army and Air Force exchange service; H.R. 6977, to provide for an Armed Forces Reserve Medal; and H.R. 6979, to provide for an Armed Forces Reserve Commendation Ribbon.

As to certain of the legislative matters reported on above, at the biennial convention held on 17 February 1950, resolutions were adopted setting forth the sense of the Association with respect thereto and directing certain action to be taken. Those resolutions are set forth in full in that part of this issue devoted to the proceedings of the convention.

There remain certain matters as to which no legislation has been introduced in the Congress, but which are being closely followed by the staff. In many cases studies are being made either supplementary to departmental action, or separately, with a view to determination of whether legislation should be introduced. These matters arise from communications received from members, in some cases requesting positive action and in others pointing out inconsistencies in laws or situations existing with respect to those members which might be made the subject of either departmental action or legislative correction. In this category there is the question of crediting service as Army field clerks for pay purposes. Several of our members have written as to that problem. The reimbursement of certain losses through the operation of the dual employment laws during World War II. The prohibition of sales to all components of the Department of Defense by regular retired officers.

Additionally, there are certain primary problems with which the staff must continually concern itself. Those embrace a study of the effects of the interpretation and administration of the Career Compensation Act of 1949; the proposed general over-all review and amendment of the service retirement and promotion laws; the project now underway in the Department of the Army for the codification of Army laws, particularly the portions relating to retirement; and the review of the laws relative to the Naval and Marine Corps reserve which was presented in the bill H.R. 2828, introduced last session by Rep. Vinson.

GENERAL REVISION OF RETIREMENT LAWS

In the 1st Quarter-1950 issue of the Bulletin (p. 7, col. 2), it was pointed out that, during consideration of the Career Compensation Act of 1949, Chairman Vinson of the House Armed Services Committee stated on the floor of the House that the subject of general revision of retirement laws, coupled with the establishment of a survivors' benefit plan, would later be brought up for deliberation by his Committee.

Steps now have been taken by the Bureau of the Budget to initiate a study of all Federal retirement systems, including that applying to military personnel.

The Department of Defense Policy Board, which has for some time been engaged in a study of military retirement legislation, will probably be called upon to assist the Budget Bureau in its survey.

Presently available information indicates that Budget Director Pace favors a contributory retirement system for the Armed Forces. Likewise said to be under consideration is a form of survivor benefits. In view of the close relationship of such survivor benefits to the over-all retirement picture, there is strong probability that the two will be reviewed simultaneously during the Budget's analysis.

Several months will be required to reach an adequate evaluation of the problem. The study, when completed, would

suggest definite procedural plans upon which future recommendations, possibly to the 82nd Congress, could be based.

Reportedly the Bureau of the Budget's comprehensive study of this subject includes, in addition to the Armed Services, all other forms of retirement, both governmental and industrial. There is a feeling in some quarters that the Budget Bureau's probe might result in the recommendation for a single retirement agency, with a view to effecting tremendous administrative overhead savings.

While we commend those efforts that would bring about a realistic economy in Federal expenditures, it is felt that the establishment of a uniform retirement system for all those in Federal service would have the opposite effect. As a matter of fact, it is basically impossible to unify the military and civilian systems because of the fundamental differences in the standards upon which each is based.

Military personnel attain the right to full retirement only after completion of thirty or more years of active service involving untold hazards and sacrifices, or through premature termination of their careers as a result of injury or disease contracted in the performance of those rigid and exacting duties.

Never in history have military retirements been regarded a gratuity. More properly it is held out as an earned annuity to those who devote their lives to safeguarding and promoting our country's interests in time of peace and to the aggressive protection of those interests in time of war.

To attempt drastic changes in the concept of military retirements, tending to reduce present benefits without providing adequate compensatory measures, would be to invoke a breach of contract upon those who have attained that status and would be a severe blow to the morale of those now serving with that goal as an incentive.

It is the considered judgment of this Association that any study with a view to revising retirement laws affecting the uniformed services should include features of a participating retirement plan and survivor benefits for those on the active lists, and that such plan should provide identical benefits to the widows and dependent survivors of personnel retired previous to its effective date on the theory that a constructive contribution has already been made by their principals.

Our members are assured that the Association will follow carefully developments in this field and will, as deemed advisable and circumstances permit, submit to appropriate officials in every proper manner the views, desires and best interests of retired personnel relating to the instant question.

THE CAREER COMPENSATION ACT OF 1949

As we go to press, the President has not yet signed the required Executive Order establishing regulations governing those retired for physical disability prior to the effective date of the Career Compensation Act of 1949 (1 October 1949). Accordingly, the Departments concerned are still without authority to proceed with the actual implementation of the new law as regards those so retired.

However, regulations covering that subject have been prepared and early Presidential approval of them is expected.

Since the Career Compensation Act of 1949 authorizes payments to personnel retired for physical disability to be made either by the Department of Defense or the Veterans Administration, a question further confronting the President is the designation of the disbursing agency to handle the accounts of personnel so retired. It is understood that the Bureau of the Budget is opposed to transferring accounts of those so affected who are now being paid by the Departments from which retired.

Before Army officers retired for reasons other than disability, who are entitled to advanced ranks on the retired list pursuant to the subject Act can be credited with the higher rates, they must be certified for such higher ranks based upon an official statement furnished the pay officer by the Adjutant General. That work is proceeding with all possible dispatch and it is anticipated that all such accounts will be adjusted in the very near future.

While, as previously stated, final action with respect to those retired for physical disability prior to 1 October 1949, cannot be taken until governing regulations receive the President's signature, all the Services are engaged in setting up procedures necessary to facilitate the processing of those cases as soon as possible after that action is given.

ORIENTATION CONFERENCE FOR RETIRED ARMY GENERALS IN WASHINGTON

Secretary of the Army Gordon Gray and General J. Lawton Collins, Army Chief of Staff recently extended invitations to 210 retired Army generals residing in the metropolitan area of Washington, to an orientation conference in the Pentagon Building on 25 January 1950. It is understood that a large percentage attended.

In explaining the purpose of the meeting, General Collins announced it was to inform retired general officers regarding present thinking in the Army and give them an opportunity to discuss subjects of mutual interest with the Secretary and Chief of Staff.

Our Association commends the progressive action of the Army in arranging a session of that nature. Since retired officers, particularly those of general and flag rank, enjoy a status of honored graduates of the Armed Forces and, consequently, are held in high public esteem, it is believed their services could be advantageously employed in focusing attention, through civilian contacts, to a better understanding of our national defense needs, based upon an accurate and up-to-date estimate of the situation.

ARMED FORCES DAY

20 May has been designated as Armed Forces Day to replace former individual Service days. It marks the first time in history that a single day is set aside to focus attention simultaneously on all branches of our Military Services. "Teamed for Defense" is the official slogan for the occasion.

Plans call for a nationwide observance of Armed Forces Day. All Service installations will be opened for public inspection. Parades are scheduled in the larger centers. Personnel and equipment participation will be provided in as many cities as practicable. Other communities have been asked to hold appropriate ceremonies.

The purpose of Armed Forces Day is to familiarize the American people concerning their combined National Defense setup and permit them to observe at first-hand the men presently responsible for its operation and administration.

Our members are urged to lend any and all possible assistance toward helping to make this first annual observance of Armed Forces Day such a success as will merit continued public good-will, confidence and support.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The last quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors for the year 1949 was held in the Army & Navy Club, Washington, on Wednesday, 7 December. There was the usual excellent attendance.

Guest speaker at a delightful luncheon preceding the transaction of business was Colonel Eugene A. Gillis, Chief, Division of Commissioned Officers, United States Public Health Service, who gave a most interesting talk on the varied functions of that agency. Transcript of Colonel Gillis' remarks are published under separate heading in this issue.

Required routine reports were submitted and approved.

Preparations being made for conducting the forthcoming

biennial convention of the Association were outlined in general and adopted.

In view of the rapidly expanding workload of the staff, comments were expressed regarding the possible need for additional staff personnel. It was announced that that need may, in the not too distant future, become real and pressing, and would be dealt with at the proper time as conditions and circumstances should indicate. It was explained further that, due to an overcrowding of present office space, an attempt is being made to locate more adequate quarters.

There being no new business the Board of Directors then adjourned and met as the Board of Governors for the purpose of receiving the financial report of the Association's Scholarship Fund. As of 1 September 1949 there was on deposit to the credit of that Fund $1,154.50, whereas on 1 December 1949 a balance of $1,673.00 obtained. No loans under the Scholarship Program have yet been made, but it is expected that applications for such assistance will be made during the coming year.

ADDRESS OF MEDICAL DIRECTOR EUGENE A. GILLIS, UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Following is text of remarks delivered by Medical Director Eugene A. Gillis, Chief, Division of Commissioned Officers, United States Public Health Service, at the luncheon meeting of the Board of Directors at the Army & Navy Club in Washington on Wednesday, 7 December 1949:

Surgeon General Scheele was disappointed that he was unable to meet with your Association today because of a previous commitment. He asked me to express his interest in the continuation by your Association of the vigorous support which you have been giving to protecting and preserving the present benefits, rights and privileges of retired officers, their dependents and survivors. Although the Public Health Service has only 152 retired officers, they should all be deeply appreciative of the measures which your Association have undertaken in their behalf and the excellent way in which the views and desires of retired personnel of the uniformed services were presented during consideration of the Career Compensation Act of 1949. We, of the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service, are anxious and willing to support your organization in every way possible. Do not hestitate to suggest as to how we can be of assistance and how we can encourage a greater number of our retired officers to more actively support your work.

The Public Health Service which was established in 1798 as the United States Marine Hospital Service to provide medical and hospital care for American Merchant Seamen, now conducts many broad programs for the protection and improvement of National health. These include: research in medical and related sciences; foreign and interstate quarantine; control of biologic products sold in interstate commerce; financial and technical assistance to States for the expansion of public health programs and the control of widespread diseases.

Most of the research of the Public Health Service is carried on in the National Institute of Health. These comprise the National Cancer Institute, Experimental Biology and Medicine Institute, National Heart Institute, National Institute of Dental Research, National Institute of Mental Health, and Microbiological Institute.

Construction of a 600-bed clinical and laboratory research center in connection with the Institutes is going forward. The center will be completed in 1950, and will provide laboratory and clinical facilities for an integrated program of basic and applied research on physical and mental diseases.

Cooperation with the States is a basic operating philosophy of the Public Health Service. Financial grants-in-aid, consultation, and demonstrations for the purpose of controlling diseases of public health importance and for developing community public health services are administered through the Bureau of State Services. Federal, State and interstate activities are grouped as enviromental health services, personal health services, and auxiliary services.

A high level of general sanitation is necessary to general health. The Public Health Service aids the states in developing standards and methods of protecting foods, milk and water from contamination. Special attention is given to protection of shellfish and maintenance of standards of sanitation aboard interstate and international carriers.

Infectious diseases have been reduced to a negligible threat. Efforts to control tuberculosis, malaria and venereal diseases have been markedly successful. There remain problems in the spread of communicable disease, however, and in developing more efficient methods of control in the local community health service. The chronic illnesses which sap both the health and economic strength of the nation, represent a major public health problem of the mid-century.

Life expectancy in 1900 was 49 years; a person born today can expect to reach 67. This fact points up to the primary importance to the nation's health of problems of the ageing and of long-term or chronic illnesses.

Health care activities of the Public Health Service are administered through the Bureau of Medical Services for the construction and administration of hospitals, medical, nursing and dental resources, and foreign quarantine.

For the medical care and treatment of federal beneficiaries, primarily merchant seamen and the Coast Guard, the Public Health Service operates 18 general hospitals, two tuberculosis sanatoria, three psychiatric hospitals (two of which treat drug addicts), a hospital for the treatment of leprosy, 19 clinics and 100 outpatient offices.

During the two years of operation, $150 million of federal grants have been made for construction under the National Hospital Program; 35 new hospitals are already in operation, 355 are being built, and 500 others have been approved for construction.

MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN AS OF 31 JANUARY 1950

Army	7,670
Navy	5,783
Air Force	1,582
Marine Corps	777
Coast Guard	1,022
Coast & Geodetic Survey	44
Public Health Service	49
Total	16,927
Life Members (Non-dues-paying status)	987
Life Members (Dues-paying-status)	1,141
Members	8,218
Reserve Members	6,581
Total	16,927

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS — CHANGE OF ADDRESS

On 25 February 1950, National Headquarters of the Association were moved from its former location at 1600 20th Street N.W., Washington 9, D. C., to 1616 Eye Street N.W., Washington 6, D. C. The new telephone number will be noted on the flag of this issue on page 2, immediately inside the cover.

The new location is obliquely opposite the Army & Navy Club in Washington and provides much needed additional office space.

GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE HENRY H. ARNOLD

This Association joins the Nation in mourning the loss of one of its most illustrious members, General of the Air Force Henry H. Arnold, who passed on to eternal rest on 15 January 1950.

His long and distinguished career was marked with exceptional courage and devotion, notably his outstanding leadership in the development of the greatest Air Force the World has ever witnessed.

General Arnold was what might properly be termed a natural-born airman, for he took up flying at an early stage and was perhaps more in his element when cruising in the yonder blue.

Because of his fine character, his gracious and happy disposition, coupled with an abiding faith in the value of the planes he knew so well as an instrument of preserving the peace his individual efforts contributed in generous measure to accomplish, we know that he is a great aviator whom even death could never ground. His memory and guiding spirit will ever remain aloft as an inspiration to those who will wear silver wings.

OBITUARIES

We pause in deep reverence and honor to the memory of the following of our members for whom taps have been sounded since 1 August, last. May their brave souls forever rest in peace—

MajGen. R. H. Allen, USA
GenofAF. H. H. Arnold
Col. G. D. Arrowsmith, USA
Col. J. F. Barker, USA
Gun. H. L. Bassett, USN
RAdm. L. L. Bennett, USCG
LtComdr. W. R. Beuchner, USN
Comdr. E. L. Bissett, USN
2ndLt. E. A. Blair, USMC
1stLt. D. Blandford, USA
LtComdr. P. F. Blinn, USN
LtCol. R. E. Boyers, USA
Maj. R. C. Brackney, USA
LtComdr. C. H. Brandenburgh, USN
ChElec. A. Brettler, USN
Lt. W. A. Buckley, USN
2ndLt. C. F. Burrall, USMC
RAdm. E. H. Campbell, USN
LtCol. H. Cannon, AUS
LtComdr. F. X. Carmody, USN
Col. G. H. Casady, USA
Lt(jg). F. L. Case, USN
Lt. W. M. Casstevens, USN
LtComdr. D. W. Casto, (MC), USN
RAdm. L. H. Chandler, USN
RAdm. W. P. Clarke, USN
Col. W. A. Coleman, AUS
Col. Harry Cooper, AUS
LtCol. P. S. Corbett, ORC
ChPayClk. C. J. Cox, USN
Capt. G. R. Crapo, (SC), USN
Col. L. C. Crawford, USA
Lt. J. F. Crowley, USA
Maj. C. W. Daniel, USAF
Col. C. H. Dewey, (MC), USA
LtCol. L. A. Dewey, USA
BrigGen. W. DeWitt, (MC), USA
Lt. D. F. Diggins, USN
ChCarp. R. H. Dollhopf, USNR
Maj. R. P. Dooley, AUS
ChMach. Wm. Eisenstein, USN
Capt. G. B. Evans, USN
Lt(jg). W. F. Foley, USN
Comdr. F. T. Foxwell, (SC), USN
Comdr. E. H. Gale, (SC), USN
BrigGen. W. E. Gilmore, USAF
LtCol. E. C. Goldsworthy, AFUS
Maj. R. W. Goodyear, USA
Lt. H. T. Gower, USNR
LtComdr. G. R. Griffith, USCG
BrigGen. M. C. Gregory, USMC
ChElec. G. S. Gruenburg, USN
LtComdr. A. G. Grunwell, USN
Col. I. B. Hague, (DC), USA
ChGun. V. A. Hale, USMCR
Col. D. P. Hall, USMC
Comdr. O. P. Hanson, USN
Maj. J. T. Hanway
LtComdr J. M. Haynie, USN
Capt. A. B. Hays, USA
Capt. E. L. Hoffman, AUS
Col. L. P. Horsfall, USA
LtCol. S. F. Howard, USA
1stLt. K. W. Howry, USA
Maj. F. D. Huarte, USA
LtComdr. B. L. Jarvis, USN
LtComdr. O. F. Johanns, USN
Col. H. B. Jordan, USA
LtCol. C. W. Jump, USA
BrigGen. C. Keller, USA
2ndLt. Wm. Keogh, USMC
ChGun. C. E. Keptner, USN
Capt. H. R. King, USA
Ens. P. H. King, (NC), USN
LtComdr. T. O. Kirby, USN
Maj. L. B. Lawton, USA
Col. F. E. Linnell, USA
LtComdr. R. K. Madill, USN
Col. T. E. Mahoney, USA
Col. C. L. Malone, AUS
LtCol. J. McClintock, USA
Lt. W. K. McDuffie, USNR
Comdr. D. A. McElduff, USN
Comdr. F. L. McFadden, USN
Col. C. W. McMillan, (MC), USA
Col. C. H. McNair, USA
Lt.Col. H. W. Meredith, USA
Capt. C. R. Miller, USN
LtCol. O. D. Miller, USA
Capt. C. G. Moore, USN
MajGen. G. F. Moore, USA
Col. S. J. Morris, USA
LtComdr. W. E. Morton, USN
LtCol. W. H. Moss, USA
Col. J. P. Murphy, USA
Commo. J. V. Murphy, USN
LtComdr. D. D. Murray, USNR
Lt. A. D. Nelson, USCG
LtComdr. J. A. Newell, USN
Capt. P. L. Ogle, USA
Col. E. H. O'Rourke, USA
BrigGen. E. G. Peyton, USA
Chaplain W. Powell, ORC
Capt. G. L. Price, ANC
Bosn. F. Prillwitz, USCG
Lt. A. Riggin, (SC), USN
Col. K. T. Riggs, USA
Capt. E. G. Roach, AUS
ChPayClk. A. L. Robinson, USMC
Col. A. E. Saxton, USA
Col. F. M. Schramm, AUS
Capt. H. R. Searles, USCG
Capt. T. E. Serson, (ChC), USA
MajGen. H. G. Sharpe, USA
ChElec. F. Sileox, USCG
Lt. A. C. Skinner, USN
1stLt. E. Smart, AUS
BrigGen. B. M. Smith, USA
Lt. W. J. Smith, USN
Comdr. R. E. Snedaker, USN
LtCol. R. K. Spiller, USA
Capt. G. R. Stackhouse, USN
Capt. H. E. Stevens, (SC), USN
ChMach. J. E. Stinzendorfer, USN
LtComdr. K. D. Stoddard, USN
Col. J. M. Swan, (MC), AUS
LtComdr. R. J. Swint, USN
LtCol. M. F. Tackeff, ORC
Col. H. L. Threlkeld, USA
LtCol. F. C. Venn, USA
Lt. W. H. Vien, USA
Col. W. H. Waldron, USA
LtComdr. C. Walker, USCG
Capt. J. C. Wallace, ORC
1stLt. M. L. Webster, USA
1stLt. C. B. White, ANC
1stLt. F. J. White, ORC
Capt. C. W. Wilson, AUS
Capt. A. H. Folf, USA
Bosn. J. N. Woolford, USCG
LtComdr. T. W. Wright, USCG
LtGen. B. K. Yount, USAF
ChCarp. J. T. Zumsteg, USN

LITTLE THINGS

It takes a little muscle and it takes a little grit,
A little true ambition with a little bit of wit.
It's not the "biggest" things that count and make
the "biggest" show.
It's the little things that people do that make
the old world go.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF 31 JAN. 1950

Cash in Bank (Hamilton National Bank), 31 Jan. 1950	6,311.80
Petty Cash on Hand	25.00
Total Available Cash	6,356.80
U. S. GOVERNMENT BONDS	36,840.00
Accured interest on 23 "F" Series Bonds	46.00
Total Available Fiscal Assets	43,242.80
Book Value of Office Equipment	5,665.37
Worth as of 31 Jan. 1950	48,908.17

To RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION,
1616 Eye St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

Date _____

Gentlemen:—

You may enroll me as a member of the Retired Officers Association. Inclosed is check for $5.00.

Entrance fee _____ $1.00
Annual dues _____ 4.00
$5.00

Fifty cents of which is for subscription to Association Bulletin.

Name _____
(Please Print)

Rank and Service _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Zone ____ State _____

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Capt. W.G.G., USARes, Ret.—Thank you for your help in getting the necesary information about my lost retirement check. The Retired Officers Association renders a great service and is a most worthy organization with which I am proud to be identified.

Capt. I.D.C., (SC), USN, Ret.—You have all done a very fine job in bringing to light the sad financial plight in which the old retired officers have been submerged for so long, and you deserve our sincere thanks.

2ndLieut. D.E.W., ANC, Ret.—Please accept my appreciation for your letter regarding my insurance check which has since been received. Your promptness in straightening out that problem is indeed a great credit to the Association.

Col. E.E.H., USAF, Ret.—Congratulations to all of you on the very high order of your work. The recent statements regarding legislation have been thoughtfully prepared and accurately and effectively presented.

W.O. E.E.P., USMCR, Ret.—Great credit is due the Association's management on the precise manner of its efforts in furnishing information so helpful and enlightening to the membership.

Capt. J.L.Z., AUS, Ret—It is a privilege to be a member of an Association that has accomplished so much for so many in a short space of time.

Lieut. G.A.O., USCG, Ret.—I thoroughly enjoy reading the Bulletins. Each issue is timely and very interesting. Its article are concise and extremely informative. It is gratifying to know that we have a sincere and hard-working organization doing a most effective job in the best interests of all retired officers.

Maj. H.E.C., USA, Ret.—As I have expressed before, I think our Association is doing a mighty fine job in the interest of retired personnel of all the services, keeping them informed of legislation and new developments. The articles on the Career Compensation Act of 1949 and proposals for widows' pensions are timely and progressive. Our members should congratulate themselves for having the benefit of a fine administration.

The mother of a retired officer writes—You have been exceedingly kind and helpful in taking over this matter for me and I can only say that I thank you with all my heart. May all good things come to you for the continued success of your splendid efforts.

NOTES TO MEMBERS

Regularly scheduled publication of the Bulletin is as follows: 1st Quarter, 15 December; 2nd Quarter, 15 March; 3rd Quarter, 15 June; 4th Quarter, 15 December. Any member failing to receive his copy through normal distribution should write us and we will promptly furnish. We will also gladly send a copy, upon request, to any non-member interested in our activities.

Suggestions from members as to any manner in which the Bulletin might be improved will be welcomed.

Hearty greetings are extended to all those who have become members during the past few months. Recent membership expansion has been most gratifying. However, in order to increase constantly our effectiveness in providing adequate representation of those interests bearing upon retired status, there must be continued membership development. Not only must normal losses be replaced, but there must be that healthy growth inspired by retired officers themselves who recognize the necessity of organized effort and appreciate the value of uniting their forces and acting together toward the common task of advancing new and safeguarding old benefits which go to make retired status a more secure and happier one.

There is one other reason why retired officers should join this Association that should be mentioned. The Association needs the individual. It does not, however, need the member so much as the member needs it; nevertheless, it needs every last member. It needs his presence, his counsel, and his support. The larger the membership, all things being equal, the stronger the Association. The stronger the Association, the more effective its efforts. When the largest possible percentage of retired officers accept the soundness of these convictions and recognize the need of coordinated, efficient assistance in the solution of their respective individual official problems, the nearer we will be to achieving our goal of expanded and improved services to members, their dependents and survivors.

Members are urged to keep us advised of any change in their mailing adress. In reporting such changes it would be appreciated if both old and new addresses will be indicated. That procedure insures a proper checking of our records.

Orders may still be filled for our attractive lapel rosettes. They are available to members desiring them at 50c each.

RETIRED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

1616 Eye Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Entered as second class matter, May 2, 1945, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879.